In the claims:

Cancel claims 2, 8, 15 and 22 without prejudice and without disclaimer of the subject matter.

Replace claims 1, 7, 13 and 20 with the amended claims below.

1. (Amended) A method of detecting the presence of at least one PDGFD antigen of SEQ ID NO:2 in a sample, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a biological sample;

b) contacting the sample with an agent that binds to at least one p35 antigen, wherein the p35 antigen comprises at least one C-terminal fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the C-terminal fragment comprises an N-terminus beginning at Gly248, Ser250 or Arg341 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

c) detecting the presence of the agent bound to the p35 antigen;

whereby the presence of the agent indicates that the antigen is present in the sample.

7. (Amended) A method of determining the amount of at least one PDGFD antigen of SEQ ID NO:2 in a sample, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a biological sample,

b) contacting the sample with an agent that binds to at least one p35 antigen, wherein the p35 antigen comprises at least one C-terminal fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the C-terminal fragment comprises an N-terminus beginning at Gly248, Ser250 or Arg341 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

c) determining the amount of the agent bound to the p35 antigen;

whereby the amount of the agent so determined correlates with the amount of the antigen in the sample.

13. (Amended) A method of contributing to a diagnosis of cancer in a subject, comprising the steps of:

i) providing a biological sample from the subject, and

ii) determining whether at least one p35 antigen is present in the sample, wherein the p35 antigen comprises at least one C-terminal fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the

C-terminal fragment comprises an N-terminus beginning at Gly248, Ser250 or Arg341 of SEQ ID NO:2;

whereby a finding that the antigen is present indicates that the subject may have cancer.

20. (Amended) A method of staging cancer in a subject, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a biological sample from the subject;

b) determining the amount of a p35 antigen in the sample, wherein the p35 antigen comprises at least one C-terminal fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the C-terminal fragment comprises an N-terminus beginning at Gly248, Ser250 or Arg341 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

c) correlating the amount with the stage of the cancer;

thereby staging the cancer in the subject.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c), a marked up version of the claims showing the changes made appears as Appendix B of this Amendment.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, 16-21 and 23-26 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2, 8, 15 and 22 are cancelled without disclaimer of the subject matter, which may be pursued in a later application.

Support for amendments to the specification on page 128 appears, *e.g.*, in FIG. 15 as filed, and on page 24, lines 19-22, page 123, lines 20-24, and page 128, lines 9-16. Amendments to independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 20 were made to more particularly point out the claimed subject matter. Support for amendments to claims 1, 7, 13 and 20 appear in the specification at least, *e.g.*, on page 24, lines 19-22, page 123, lines 20-24, and page 128, lines 9-16, and in FIG. 15 as filed. No new matter has been added.

Claims have be objected to and rejected on various grounds. Each will be addressed in turn below.

Objections are overcome.

The specification was objected to because the Examiner noted sequences on p. 129 that lacked sequence identifiers. However, Applicants did not find any such sequences on p. 129, but